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a model of its kind, and an example to other ministers of religion of how to deal with subjects that so closely concern them as spiritual advisers.

Wahrung eines Jugendfreundes vor dem gefährlichsten Jugendfeinde.
KAPFF. Stuttgart, 1842.

Tissot and Zeller appear to be the main authorities upon which Kapff has relied for information, but the method of treatment is original, and a model of pedagogical insight.

We now approach a subject of the highest importance to the welfare of a nation, viz., the family. That marriage is an institution for the ultimate purpose of keeping up the succession of generations of mankind is the expression of the wisest and best thinkers of all times; but there are firmly rooted in society views and practices that are subversive of this end. Such practices include all forms of incontinence, prostitution, free-love, abortions, and all sexual relations in which the ultimate purpose of reproduction is thwarted. In this connection we take the following work as representative, although were it not for its great popularity, it would not be worthy of consideration :

The Elements of Social Science ; or Physical, Sexual and Natural Religion. An exposition of the true cause and only cure of the three primary social evils, Poverty, Prostitution and Celibacy. By a DOCTOR OF MEDICINE. Dedicated to the poor and suffering. Twelfth Edition. Translated into many European languages. London, 1875. pp. 592.

The anonymous author professes to be a Comtist, and writes with true religious fervor in favor of a better physical development ("physical religion"). By sexual religion is meant the application of medical means to cure sexual diseases. By natural religion he means the abolition of restrictions upon free love. The primary thesis is that the celibate life is one of suffering, and matrimony is monopoly. That such a book represents a most powerful pernicious influence, dangerous to society, goes without saying. A simple inspection of medical works like *Excessive Venery*, HOWE, New York, 1884, pp. 299, and others reviewed below, will show that much of the misery and degradation of society is traceable to the very things advocated by this author. The injunctions of religion are justified by the principles of physiological science. The *Symptoms of Sexual Exhaustion* are considered by Beard in the May and June numbers of the *Independent Practitioner*, 1880. Such symptoms are, lack of mental control, defective memory, irritable heart, wandering of attention, excitable pulse, dimness of vision, morbid fears, softness or weakness of voice, sweats, cold hands and feet, paralysis of will from anxiety, besides the legion of diseases directly caused. Just what constitutes an abnormal exercise of the reproductive functions leading to disease, and how such disease is produced, is an unsettled and extremely complex problem, and certainly offers a field for investigation.

The Jukes, a study in Heredity, Pauperism and Crime. DUGDALE. New York, 1877. pp. 120.

This interesting study of a large family of hundreds of criminals that could be traced to a common ancestor who was a harlot, and whose descendants were largely harlots and criminals, shows most vividly the close association existing between prostitution and crime. Pauperism is shown to be the result of weakness or sexual exhaustion. Among the valuable conclusions reached the following may be noted : Early marriage tends to extinguish harlotry. A favorable environment in early life may counteract the tendency of heredity. Usually the heredity exerts itself in creating an environment favorable to its own development. It is the

environment that works badly for the illegitimate child, for if favorably placed he may succeed. The diseases that cause pauperism are due to licentiousness. Induced pauperism, caused by the bringing up of a child in the poor-house, is easily reverted to, and becomes hereditary in the offspring. The illegitimate lines furnish the most criminals. Men become moral by patient training, leading to the organization of habit. Reformers should make reform easy; for development is in the direction of least resistance. The Jukes are sexually precocious. Many of the effects ordinarily termed hereditary are due secondarily to other forces that are alone truly congenital. Hence education can step in and direct the stream of development.

Le Mariage au point de vue de l'hérédité. BATTESTI. Paris, 1886.

The main part of this brochure is devoted to stating and illustrating the laws of heredity. The author holds the view that mutilations and acquired characters may be transmitted. The subject of transmission of psychic conditions is quite fully treated. He is not in favor of early marriage; 25 for the woman and 35 for the man are optimal ages. Twice as many girls married before the age of 20 die, as of celibates, and that too in the face of the fact that celibates are often such from having weakly constitutions deterring them from marriage. Characters that develop late, and are confined to one sex, appear in the same sex and at the same age in the offspring; but characters that appear early in either sex are transmitted to both sexes. Syphilis is used as an illustration to confirm this law; but we fear that the author has not analyzed the question thoroughly enough. The outcome of the paper is, that a knowledge of these laws should govern in marriage. Unfortunately, all efforts to breed human beings fail, even after the obstacles that emotion throws in the way are overcome; as witness the failure of the Oneida Community. Natural choice is based upon attractions that represent real affinities between the persons in love, and this unreasoning choice is far wiser than the greatest learning could make any person at present. There is need of studying what this attraction is, to discover the laws that govern its operation. Even prostitutes form special attachments that are apt to result in fertility. A clear determination of the relations of love to fertility must have pre-eminent interest from a legal as well as a psychological standpoint.

The subject of divorce is painfully frequent in its exemplification, yet we are assured that only a fraction of unhappy marriages come before the public. Such a state of things shows a deplorable want of a high ideal among the masses as to the obligations and significance of the marriage contract. This wrong is not easily righted by legislation; but in the proper training of youth there is promise of better things.

Of the greatest importance also is the subject of abortion. An earnest protest was made in 1867 by Dr. Storer of Boston in two small books ("Why not?—a book for every woman," and "Is it I?—a book for every man"), in view of an alarming increase in this practice, the number of cases involved in the United States having been estimated by the hundreds of thousands. This could not happen were it not for the direct ignorance prevailing among the people, concerning the development of the embryo and the danger of interfering with the important functions of gestation. The subject has wide historical and anthropological bearings, as the following works show:

Die Geburt bei den Urvölkern. ENGLEMAN. Wien, pp. 197.

This work is a valuable exposition of obstetric methods used by uncivilized races. The Calabar Indians give drugs in the third month of pregnancy to test the viability of the fœtus. Should the fetus survive there is great care taken to prevent mis-carriage. Such practices